

# STATE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL (SIAC)

## November Meeting Summary



**Date | time** November 18, 2020 | 10:00 a.m. | **Meeting Location** virtually via Zoom

**Meeting called to order by** Marta Miranda-Straub,  
Commissioner of Department for Community Based Services & SIAC Chair

## WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & UPDATES

**Marta Miranda-Straub**, Commissioner of Department for Community Based Services (DCBS) and SIAC Chair, welcomed members/alternates and guests to the meeting, then called the meeting to order.

## BUSINESS ITEMS

### Review of October Meeting Summary

**Ivy Alexander** made a motion to approve. **Rhonda Logsdon** – second to the motion. Motion carried.

### Annual Recommendations to the Governor and Legislative Research Commission

**SIAC Chair Marta Miranda-Straub** requested Members/Designees review the draft and provide feedback.

Council Members expressed they approved of the new format and the graphics. Members suggested checking font size and headings for consistency. **Rachel Bingham** made a motion to approve. **Vestena Robbins** – second to the motion. **SIAC Chair Marta Miranda-Straub** called for a vote, and it was unanimously approved.

### Standing Committees and the Social Ecological Model (SEM)

**SIAC Chair Marta Miranda-Straub** reported the Standing Committee Chairs and Staff are working with Miriam Silman and Phyllis Millsbaugh to align tasks with the Social Ecological Model, and the Standing Committees met today using the SEM for the first time. This item will remain on the agenda for next month.

## UPDATE ON DCBS IMPLEMENTATION OF FAMILY FIRST

**Jessica Brown**, Executive Advisor, DCBS, provided an update on DCBS implementation of Family First. Ms. Brown reported they are offering ten virtual forums, nine in the DCBS regions and one statewide for appointed and elected officials. In Federal Fiscal Year 2020, states gained the option to use federal title IV-E funding for prevention services for children, parents and/or kin caregivers. DCBS has used this opportunity to expand Family Preservation Program (FPP), Kentucky Strengthening Ties and Empowering Parents (KSTEP), and Sobriety Treatment and Recovery Team (START). Ms. Brown provided data on the use of each to include the number of families and children served as well as the percentage of children in home at case closure. Ms. Brown discussed the importance of collaboration. Partnerships have allowed Kentucky Opioid Response Effort (KORE) to expand KSTEP and START, and the System of Care (SOC) FIVE grant to improve behavioral health outcomes for children and youth (birth to age 21) who meet criteria for having a severe emotional disability (SED) and their families and who have child welfare involvement. SOC FIVE will fund in-home services for children in four DCBS regions. Ms. Brown also provided updated data on children in out of home care (OOHC). A copy of the PowerPoint is available [see *Meeting Handouts*].

## KENTUCKY SKY

**Kelly Pullen**, Executive Director, Kentucky SKY (Supporting Kentucky Youth) of Aetna and **Elizabeth Wendel**, Clinical Consultant and Family Engagement, Foster Care Systems SME at Aetna, provided an overview of the Kentucky SKY program. Aetna's SKY program will be the sole statewide coordinator of physical and behavioral health, dental care and social services for children and youth in foster care, Medicaid eligible youth in the juvenile justice system, former foster youth under age 26, youth placed with fictive kin, and adoption assistance youth. SKY has the following goals: reduce the number of children removed from biological parents due to neglect; return children from long-term out-of-home

placements to their families, specifically children placed out of state and or residential care; ensure that older foster youth have permanency plans that include lifelong connections with biological relatives and other important, informal relationships; and each child has a multiple life domain care plan with at least two community-based resources which addresses unmet needs across multiple life domains. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Wendel at [wendele@aetna.com](mailto:wendele@aetna.com). A copy of the PowerPoint is available [see *Meeting Handouts*].

## RIAC COVID-19 FUNDING PROJECT: BARREN RIVER RIAC

**Anne Embry**, Local Resource Coordinator, Barren River RIAC, presented on the RIAC's use of COVID-19 grant funding. Barren River RIAC focused their efforts on families with children under the age of 18 and transition-age youth. The RIAC applied for and was awarded \$5000. The funds were used to purchase Walmart gift cards, produce vouchers from a local farmers market, hygiene kits, and cleaning supply kits. The RIAC distributed items to families in Allen, Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Logan, Metcalfe, Monroe, Simpson, and Warren counties. The RIAC served 233 families in their 10-county Barren River Region. Ms. Embry thanked several community partners, including DCBS, Glasgow Police Department, and Lifeskills for assisting in assembling the kits and delivering them.

## SIAC MEMBER UPDATES

**Marta Miranda-Straub**, DCBS, reported the department is using five pillars for the vision and mission of building a 21<sup>st</sup> century Cabinet to decrease barriers and increase accessibility and transparency. Pillars: 1. Equity and Social Economic Justice; 2. Trauma and Engaged Healing for our clients and staff; 3. Health, which includes behavioral health and the opioid crisis; 4. Family, Children, and Youth, which includes biological families as well as foster families and Kinship Care; and 5. Operations, Implementation, and Evaluation. Commissioner Miranda-Straub reported there is a 25-member group that represents every position of every region. The workgroup is developing a 6-month stability plan that will be ready in December.

**Rachel Bingham**, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), reported AOC is deciding how the courts are going to continue to operate in red zone counties, and more information will be coming. Ms. Bingham reported the Chief Justices have the authority to close court houses to the public, if necessary. Ms. Bingham reported AOC has partnered with DCBS on the virtual forums that Jessica Brown mentioned in her presentation. Ms. Bingham reported that in the next month or so, they will be releasing a new Court of Justice website that will include juvenile data that people can access directly.

**Kelly Foster**, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), reported a full written update will be emailed later today. Ms. Foster reported Commissioner Glass is working with his senior leadership team to develop a new strategic plan. KDE will be using the results of the surveys from KDE and district staff to drive the strategic plan. Ms. Foster reported KDE has hired Dr. Woods-Tucker from Colorado to oversee the Office of Teaching & Learning as well as all of KDE's equity work. See Meeting Handouts for complete list of KDE updates.

**Vestena Robbins**, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (DBHDID), reported there are numerous updates, so a full list will be emailed later today. Dr. Robbins reported DBHDID is getting ready to embark on strategic planning. Dr. Robbins reported there is a Well at Work podcast addressing secondary traumatic stress and building workforce resilience; this and other resources are available to share broadly. Dr. Robbins reported DBHDID recently provided ongoing technical assistance and support to more than 50 trauma informed care trainers across the state. These trainers are available for presentations across the state to both professional and community groups. Please contact [BrittanyA.Barber@ky.gov](mailto:BrittanyA.Barber@ky.gov) for more information. The System of Care FIVE grant has a second notice of funding opportunity. The 2021 System of Care Academy will be held virtually in June, and we are looking for presenters; more information will be coming. DBHDID has a Family Engagement Coordinator, Joy Varney, and a Youth Engagement Coordinator, Stephanie Sikes-Jones, that are available to offer support to SIAC Member agencies. Ms. Varney and Ms. Sikes-Jones will be providing support to the SIAC Parent and Youth Representatives. If you are interested in additional support for your agency, please contact [Beth.Jordan@ky.gov](mailto:Beth.Jordan@ky.gov). See Meeting Handouts for complete list of DBHDID updates.

**William Heffron**, Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), reported DJJ has had minor COVID outbreaks in multiple facilities, so this has been their primary focus. Dr. Heffron stated when someone tests positive, they stop admitting to that facility. Everyone receives tests, and they must have two negative tests before reopening. Dr. Heffron reported DJJ

hopes to be working on the Risk Needs Assessment by the end of the year and hopes to begin implementation in the Spring.

**Judy Theriot**, Department for Medicaid Services (DMS), reported DMS is continuing to work toward a single preferred drug list that will go into effect in January. Dr. Theriot stated all of the managed care organizations (MCOs) will have a program similar to SKY beginning January 1, 2021.

**Ivanora Alexander**, Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs (OCSHCN), reported they received a telehealth grant that will provide funds for OCSHCN to operate a lending library for those families who do not have access to equipment for telehealth services. Ms. Alexander reported OCSHCN has a Parent Advisory Council and Youth Advisory Council, and they are seeking new members for both. Please contact [Lee.Gordon@ky.gov](mailto:Lee.Gordon@ky.gov) for more information.

**Denitta Mercier**, Parent Representative, reported both Kentucky Partnership for Families and Children (KPFC) and KY-SPIN have a lot of resources available for families. Ms. Mercier reported one resource is a Dad Café, and while we know this is a need, it has not been well-attended. Ms. Mercier requested Council Members/Designees assist in sharing these resources with families.

**Rhonda Logsdon**, KY-SPIN, Family Organization Representative, stated communication and communication breakdown is what is causing issues for families. Ms. Logsdon stressed the importance of the need to communicate regularly and follow-up with families. Ms. Logsdon thanked Commissioner Miranda-Straub, Miriam Silman and Phyllis Millspaugh for their leadership and support with the Social Ecological Model. Ms. Logsdon reported she is excited to use this model with her Standing Committee and within her agency. Ms. Logsdon also thanked Dr. Theriot for her follow-up on last month's concerns. Ms. Logsdon will share additional resources/webinars later today.

**Melissa Goins**, Family Resource & Youth Service Centers (FRYSC), reported her Division participated in strategic planning over the summer. Ms. Goins reported they have prioritized staff connection, and they are working to be responsive to FRYSC Coordinators. Ms. Goins stated they continue to focus and align their work with the Protective Factors.

**Rob Ellis**, Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC), reported that during his last update to SIAC, he reported \$15 million was allocated for eviction relief; those funds were spent by the end of October. Mr. Ellis reported there are \$15 million in CARES Act funding that will be available in January; priority will be given to non-profits and homeless shelters. Mr. Ellis reported concern about the eviction moratorium that ends December 31. Mr. Ellis reported KHC has a new CEO, Winston Miller.

## FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- RIAC: Updates on COVID-19 Funding Impact on the Regions – RIAC TBD – December
- Dashboard of Social Emotional Indicators – SEH&WB – December
- Family- & Youth-Driven Workgroup – Carol Cecil, KPFC – December or January

## PUBLIC COMMENT

**Marta Miranda-Straub**, SIAC Chair, asked for any public comment. There was none.

## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, December 9, 2020 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EST | Location: Zoom

## ADJOURNMENT

**Denitta Mercier** made a motion to adjourn. **Judy Theriot** – second to the motion. Motion passed.

## SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

TASK:	RESPONSIBLE PARTY:
Standing Committees report out using the Social Ecological Model (SEM) beginning December 9	Standing Committee Chairs and Staff

## IN ATTENDANCE

### Members/Designees:

Marta Miranda-Straub, DCBS

Rhonda Logsdon, KY-SPIN

Rachel Bingham, AOC

Denitta Mercier, Parent Representative

Melissa Goins, FRYSC

Rob Ellis, KHC

Vestena Robbins, DBHDID

Kelly Foster, KDE

Ivanora Alexander, OCSHCN

William Heffron, DJJ

Missy Brownson Ross, CPE

Judy Theriot, DMS

Staff: Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator, DBHDID; Lori Ramage, Administrative Specialist, DBHDID; Vanessa Brewer, RIAC Administrator, DBHDID

### Guest List:

See Attached Zoom Report